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United States Senate

SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

#83-1258

April 13, 1983

The Honorable William J. Casey
Director of Central Intelligence
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Bill:

Thank you for appearing before the Committee on March 24, 1983, to discuss publication of a dollar cost comparison of Soviet and U.S. defense expenditures and Communist Aid Activities in Non-Communist Less Developed Countries.

As we discussed in the hearing, I agreed to withhold any further judgment until all the Members had an opportunity to review your testimony. Each Member received a copy of your talking points as well as a copy of the complete statement. They were then polled as to whether or not publication of these documents by CIA should continue. The response was overwhelmingly supportive of continued publication in an unclassified form. But, the Vice Chairman, Pat Moynihan, sided with you on the issue.

Bill, Members of the Committee, including myself, were simply not convinced by your arguments. These are just the sort of reports that the CIA should be making available to the public so they can better understand the magnitude and the nature of Soviet defense expenditures, as well as their aid activities to non-Communist less developed countries around the world.

We think that the decision to cancel dissemination of these two reports as CIA products was wrong, and we urge you to reconsider.

Sincerely,

Barry Goldwater
Chairman

Enclosures

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